

adapted to move the secondary sample tube from a continuous transport mechanism to be received by a corresponding one of the first and second analyzers; and

the continuous transport mechanism for moving filled secondary tubes to a selected one of the first and second secondary tube transfer stations.

20. (Three Times Amended) A clinical chemistry system comprising:
a sample identification station comprising a sample identification mechanism for determining sample identification information from a primary sample tube;
a transferring mechanism for transferring a volume of the sample from the primary sample tube into a secondary sample tube;
a carriage mechanism, comprising a gripper that grips and lifts the primary sample tube contained in a holder, whereby the primary sample tube separates from the holder, and transports the primary sample tube to the sample identification station;
a continuous transport mechanism for moving secondary sample tubes within the system;
first and second sample tube transfer stations, respectively, for coupling to first and second analyzers, the first and second sample tube transfer stations adapted to move the secondary sample tube from the continuous transport mechanism to an interface of a first or second analyzer; and
a host computer, the host computer receiving sample identification information and issuing a sample testing message that includes one of the first and second analyzers as a destination.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 20 are amended; marked up versions of the amended claims are attached hereto pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii). Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.